

**Lancashire
Standing Advisory Council
on
Religious Education
ANNUAL REPORT**

2018- 2019



**This report covers the work of the Lancashire SACRE for the period
September 2018 to September 2019.**

SACRE Annual Report 2018-19

Chairman's Foreword



During this last year we have been very pleased to work with Building Bridges who have continued the important work previously managed by the Faith Centre. Such cooperation makes a vital contribution to the development of mutual understanding - most particularly for schools in isolated parts of Lancashire which are not easily exposed to mixed communities and different faith traditions.

Lancashire is a large Local Authority, and its capacity to respond to such needs has also been reflected in its collaboration with other SACREs both in sharing its Agreed Syllabus, and in creating a forum - the NNW SACRE Hub - for mutual development work. The best outcome for our young people will be an even fuller appreciation of the vital part that religion can play in their own lives, and the lives of others.

Peter Martin
Chair, Lancashire SACRE

Role of SACRE

The role of the SACRE is:

- To provide advice to the Local Authority on all aspects of its provision for Religious Education (RE) in its schools (this does not include academies or Voluntary Aided Schools);
- To monitor the effectiveness and appropriateness of the LA's Agreed Syllabus for RE, deciding when it needs to be reviewed and requiring the LA to carry out such a review, at least every five years;
- To provide advice to the LA on Collective Worship in its schools (this does not include Voluntary Aided or Voluntary Controlled Schools);
- To consider any requests from Headteachers to hold Collective Worship that is not of a broadly Christian character (determinations).
- To advise on matters relating to continuing professional development for teachers in RE and Collective Worship;
- To provide advice on methods of teaching RE, and the choice of teaching materials.
- To monitor the effectiveness of RE, Collective Worship and SMSC in Community Schools.
- To monitor schools' approaches to assessing pupil progress, the uptake of accredited examinations and the standards achieved
- To consider any complaints about the provision and delivery of RE or Collective Worship referred to it by the LA.

Advice

SACRE has provided advice to the Local Authority on a range of matters relating to policy and provision for Religious Education. For example:

- Providing recommendations on the variety of professional development and breadth of support provided to schools.
- Providing advice on new methods of assessment.
- Supporting the appointment process for new RE associate consultants.
- Requesting ongoing evidence in order to accurately evaluate the quality of provision and standards of attainment in RE.
- Providing advice on new more efficient methods of communication with schools.
- Providing advice on how to respond to parental requests for additional prayer sessions during the school day.

SACRE has provided advice to schools through the officer to the SACRE on a number of issues relating to the use of the Agreed Syllabus and their statutory duties in the teaching of RE. Advice currently applies to 225 primary/special schools and 29 secondary schools. Schools have responded well to the advice provided. SACRE is currently considering an appropriate response when schools are identified as not fulfilling their statutory obligations with regards to the teaching of Religious Education.

SACRE has not referred any issues to the Department for Education during the past academic year.

Complaints

SACRE has a role in investigating complaints against schools in relation to RE and Collective Worship. No such complaints were received in the past year.

FOI requests

During the reporting period, the Local Authority has received 3 requests for information under the FOI act.

Support for SACRE

The Lancashire SACRE is supported the following officers of the County Council:

Mrs A Lloyd, LA Officer	Special Support Adviser
Misbah Mahmood	Senior Democratic Services Officer
Garth Harbison	Democratic Services Officer

SACRE continues to be well supported by the Local Authority. Funding has been used to pay for:

- The services of RE consultants e.g. for writing resources, providing consultancy support and leading INSET
- The time of the LA Officer (18 days/ year)
- Administrative support (0.5/ week)
- Supply cover for teachers supporting the work of the SACRE
- Charges for external speakers
- Attendance at NASACRE conferences and travel expenses
- Room letting rates for meetings, e.g. hosting the NNWHub.
- Subsidising courses

Meetings of Lancashire SACRE

Lancashire SACRE met five times over the year (8th October 2018, 26th November 2018, 11th February 2019, 29th April 2019 and 1st July 2019). All meetings were held at County Hall, Preston. The SACRE are keen to widen their own knowledge and have adopted a policy of inviting a speaker to attend their meetings at least once each year. In November 2018 Ben Wood, the Chair of NATRE, provided a fascinating talk on the work of NATRE and his interpretation of the recommendations of the Commission on Religious Education (CoRE) – Religion and World Views: 'The Way Forward, A national plan for R.E.'

Minutes of the meetings can be accessed on the SACRE web site:

<http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/mgOutsideBodyDetails.aspx?ID=385>

A list of members and their attendance at these meetings can be found in **Annex A**.

Quality and Standards Sub-Committee

The main purpose of the QSS is to provide advice to the Local Authority, monitor the implementation of the development plan, consider changes to policy, respond to the work of other agencies and national reports, promote and champion religious and community harmony and evaluate attainment and the quality of provision in RE.

The QSS meets between meetings of the full SACRE to drive forward the SACRE's business. Meetings of this smaller committee were held on four occasions during the reporting period (12th September 2018, 7th November 2018, 20th March 2019 and 12th June 2019). Reports of QSS meetings are considered by the full SACRE and are available on the RE web site [as above].

Quality of provision and standards of attainment

SACRE uses a number of methods to monitor standards and the quality of provision.

For example:

- Scrutinising inspection reports.
- Collecting end of key stage attainment data.
- Requesting the completion of an annual questionnaire to check statutory duties and request feedback from schools.
- Analysing the Lancashire pupil attitude questionnaire.
- Undertaking school visits to celebrate and share good practice.

Lancashire SACRE appreciates schools' support in gathering end of key stage data. 50% of primary schools responded which is in line with that seen in previous years. The submission rate is not high enough and a log has been kept of those schools

that have not responded which will allow us to offer direct help and support once our consultancy capacity increases.

Responding schools have welcomed the new Learning and Progression Grids and feedback has been uniformly positive. The grids clarify age - related expectations from Y1 –Y6 and show how knowledge and skills should be taught progressively from year to year. Subject specific content for each religion has been pinpointed so that there is a clear balance between the teaching of knowledge and skills.

A more confident understanding of age - related expectations is developing, however the SACRE are aware that more moderation is needed to ensure that assessment judgements are accurate, evidence based and reliable.

Attainment data is collected from community and voluntary controlled schools and shows standards aligned to age - related expectations in Y2 and Y6. The Lancashire Agreed Syllabus should be legally implemented in 225 primary/special schools and 29 secondary schools.

Once again a KS3 survey was sent to schools instead of a request for attainment data. 7 secondary schools responded to the KS3 survey which shows more positive engagement than that seen in previous years. Finding more positive ways to engage with secondary schools continues to be a priority for the SACRE.

3/30 Lancashire academies and 12 'out of county' academies buy into the syllabus as well as Halton, Warrington, Blackpool and St Helen's Local Authorities. Lancashire SACRE has no legal duty to collect standards of attainment from these schools or authorities.

KS1

From the data submitted, at the end of KS1, 79% of pupils were assessed to be working at age - related expectations in Religious Education.

This shows a slight increase on standards in previous years.

As a comparison, the proportion of pupils nationally who met the expected standards for their age in the core subjects was 75% in reading, 69% in writing and 76% in mathematics.

KS2

From the data submitted, at the end of KS2, 83% of pupils were assessed to be working at age - related expectations in Religious Education.

High standards have been maintained however it must be born in mind that only half of primary schools responded.

As a comparison the proportion of pupils nationally who met the expected standard for their age in the core subjects was 73% in reading, 78% in writing and 79% in mathematics.

Requests for Withdrawal

For the first time, the Local Authority has attempted to monitor the number of requests for withdrawal from Religious Education (RE) lessons. Out of the schools that responded, 20 indicated that they had received requests from parents to withdraw their children from aspects of RE teaching. Schools are signposted to SACRE advice and support on protocols on the RE website.

Analysis of Questionnaire Responses.

In addition to a request for attainment data, subject leaders were asked to identify areas where they would benefit from support in delivering high quality RE. They were also asked to provide general feedback about the work of the SACRE.

In light of the impending Education Inspection Framework (EIF) from September '19, responses suggest that the development of the RE curriculum has become a growing priority in most schools. The information submitted is useful in helping Lancashire tailor a programme of professional development to meet school's needs.

The data base will be shared with the RE associate consultant so that training programmes can be tailored accordingly. Information collected has enabled us to compile an up to date data base of all subject leaders which will support communication with schools.

KS3

7 secondary schools responded to the SACRE survey. Responses suggested that there is not a uniform approach to the teaching of religious education across schools.

The following points are worth noting:

- 6/7 of the schools taught Religious Education at GCSE standard as a specific subject.
- In 3/6 schools 100% of Y11 students sat the full GCSE in 2018. This reduced to 2 schools in 2019.
- Most schools use the KS3 Agreed Syllabus exemplifications. One school requested for these to be expanded upon to develop clearer lines of progression.
- Only 5/7 schools referred to the teaching of Religious Education on their school website.
- A variety of approaches were used by schools to assess Religious Education at KS3 (GCSE grades, systems of 'entering, developing and secure' teacher assessment, SACRE advice, 'B Squared' tracking).
- None of the 7 secondary schools had received requests from parents to withdraw students from aspects of RE teaching.

Key Stage 4

Entry to GCSE RS is showing a falling trend. [2016 66%, 2017 64%, 2018:58%, 2019 57% [7,045/12,327 students]].

Standards have shifted from significantly above the national average to significantly below over the last 3 years. Attainment at Grade 4: 68% (National 71%) Data is analysed from all publicly funded schools, 32% of which are academies.

Pupil group reports show that pupils of Asian and Chinese heritage have made the most progress from their starting points. White British, FSM and inwardly - mobile pupils are identified as making the least progress.

Value-added data shows an overall subject VA score which is significantly below average.

Lancashire SACRE note the fall in achievement at KS4 and recognise the challenges that the revised GCSE syllabus has presented to schools. For example in allocating enough teaching time for the subject and the need to deepen subject knowledge. Despite having no remit in respect of faith schools and academies, the SACRE have recently providing training for non-specialist KS4 teachers on how to prepare pupils to be successful at GCSE. Advice is being taken on how to respond to non-compliance.

School Visits

Lancashire SACRE is keen to actively search out and celebrate quality teaching and learning in Religious Education across the county. Each term a small group of SACRE members identify schools where there is deemed to be excellent practice and instigate a visit to investigate further. This involves visiting lessons, looking at pupils work and interviewing subject leaders, parents, pupils and Governors. During 2018, visits were undertaken to **Moorside Primary School, Lancaster** and **Marsden Heights Academy, Brierfield**. Evidence of excellent practice was shared with schools across the county via the spring 2019 newsletter.

Agreed Syllabus Conference

A formal review of the Agreed Syllabus was undertaken in 2015-16. This will be undertaken again in 2021 in line with statutory requirements.

In the meantime, Lancashire SACRE has kept a watching brief on the development of the RE website, which provides resources to support the implementation of the syllabus, exemplar medium term plans, assessment advice and links to external guidance. Currently all of the 42 Y1- Y6 medium term planning exemplifications are

being re-written to align with the new long term curriculum map and assessment and progression framework. At the time of writing only 4 remain to be revised.

Future work on the syllabus involves:

- Re writing exemplifications for EYFS
- Updating KS3 exemplifications to ensure that lines of progression are secure.
- Writing sample assessment tasks and standards files to support moderation.
- Finalising the paper syllabus.

3/30 Lancashire academies and 12 'out of county' academies buy into the syllabus as well as Halton, Warrington, Blackpool and St Helens Local Authorities.

Support for schools

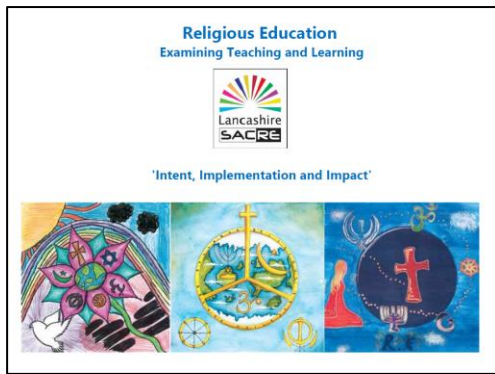
Despite limited capacity, county continues to offer a highly regarded programme of CPD for teachers of RE. This includes:

- Consultancy and Support
- A marketed course programme
- Free network meetings.

Despite best efforts, the Local Authority has found it difficult to recruit a band of high quality associate consultants to increase capacity and meet demands for support. Lancashire SACRE continue to be indebted to Joanne Harris (NATRE's North West Ambassador and Head of Teaching and Learning at Broughton High School) for her ongoing support for Lancashire schools despite the many demands on her time. She has been ably supported during the 2018/19 academic year by Helen Hall (Lea Community Primary) who has assisted with the re writing of planning exemplifications.

An RE audit tool has been written to support subject leaders in evaluating the quality of Religious Education in their schools in line with the requirements of the new Education Inspection Framework 2019. It supports teachers in understanding how the terms 'Intent, Implementation and Impact' apply to Religious Education and helps subject leaders prepare for a 'Deep Dive' into their subject. The document can be downloaded from the SACRE RE website.

A half day training session is planned for October 10th 2019 to support teachers in using this new resource, providing possible examples and answers to the prompts provided. Training will hopefully be repeated over the academic year.



Other support to schools has involved:

- Providing free training to teachers who contacted the LA to express difficulties in teaching the Agreed Syllabus.
- Providing training for school clusters.
- Hosting training on assessment in religious education in partnership with RE Today (5th Feb 2019 at Farington Lodge).
- Providing free network meetings across north, south, east and west locations.
- Hosting training for KS4 on preparing students for GCSE success.
- Providing a written protocol on how to respond to parental requests for withdrawal from aspects of the RE curriculum/ Collective Worship.

Lancashire SACRE has also improved methods of communication with schools, which now include the website, a termly newsletter and a twitter page in addition to use of the county portal and emails.

RE Quality Mark

Schools can apply for three levels of the REQM award. A school's evidence and provision are assessed by an external assessor against nationally recognised criteria. Lancashire SACRE encourages all schools to access the REQM assessment materials to use as an audit tool, even if they feel the time and cost of full accreditation are not immediate priorities. See <http://www.reqm.org/>

Youth Voice

Lancashire SACRE have always pioneered youth voice and are currently planning another pupil debate to be held in the Council Chambers at County Hall.

The Lancashire Pupil Attitude Questionnaire 2018/19 indicates that the great majority of pupils are positive about the schools' work on other cultures in their school (see below).

1. Around 97% of Y6 pupils say that their school helps them understand and care about other people. This has been consistent over the past 3 years.

2. Around 96% of Y6 pupils are positive about the lack of racist behaviour in school. This has been consistent over the past 3 years.
3. Around 78% of Y9 pupils say that their school helps them understand and learn about other cultures. This has declined by around 4% over the past 3 years.
4. Around 83% of Y9 pupils are positive about the lack of racist behaviour in school. This has declined by 5% over the past 3 years.
5. Around 75% of Y11 pupils say that their school helps them understand and learn about other cultures. This has improved by 6% from last year.
6. Around 91% of Y11 pupils are positive about the lack of racist behaviour in school. This has improved by 4% over the past 3 years.

Collective worship

Collective Worship has continued to be an area of importance for Lancashire SACRE.

The Lancashire guidance for Collective Worship; 'Mirrors and Doors 2', gives support as well as guidance to Lancashire schools, providing proformas and ideas to create meaningful acts of collective worship. This guidance is available online to eligible schools www.lancsngfl.ac.uk/curriculum/re/ and is password protected.

Materials are due for review during the next 18 months as part of SACRE's development plan.

Determinations

Determinations are made where a school, on behalf of a number of parents, requests Collective Worship other than that set down by statute. No such requests have been received by SACRE during the past year.

Contribution to the Wider Diversity Agendas

Lancashire SACRE reflects the religious and ethnic diversity of the local/regional community. Time has been spent by the full SACRE and its QSS sub-committee to ensure that membership serves the needs of Lancashire Schools and supports the Lancashire Agreed RE Syllabus. Attendance is regularly reviewed and reported upon (see appendix). Faith representatives are fully involved in the work of the SACRE and attend conferences, courses and network groups.

Lancashire SACRE aim to plan for at least one meeting at a place of worship each year.

Community Cohesion

Lancashire SACRE recognises the valuable contribution Religious Education makes to promoting community cohesion between different communities.

Following a Local Authority restructure, the work of the Faith Coordinator has been taken over by a 'Building Bridges' (a local interfaith charity). Assemblies are delivered and visits from Faith Leaders and to places of worship are facilitated. Schools are also encouraged to be actively involved in Interfaith Week celebrations.

'Building Bridges' main aim is to raise standards and breakdown stereotypes through school and community linking; contributing to community cohesion in the school/college and therefore in the wider community.

The 'Faith Friends' programme continues to be popular with schools. The 'Faith Friends' support schools by bringing the RE curriculum to life through making connections between life and learning.

'Building Bridges' also work with local faith organisations and schools to tackle issues around Relationships and Sex Education, halal food provision and attendance.

Termly reports are provided to the SACRE on the work that has been undertaken and the number of schools involved. The aim is to boost inclusion, community cohesion, mutual respect and tolerance between different religions and non-religious world views.

Links with Other Agencies

Lancashire SACRE continue to maintain positive links with a number of agencies namely:

The Lancashire Association of School Governing Bodies

The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)

The Chair of Lancashire SACRE attended the NASACRE Annual Conference in Manchester on 22 May 2019.

There were two keynote addresses at the conference entitled: 'How can SACRE transform schools to become beacons of HOPE' and 'Uncertainty and Mortality: the two stubborn particulars of RE for cohesive communities.'

Diocesan Groups

Lancashire SACRE maintains positive links with Diocesan groups e.g.
Anglican – Blackburn, Liverpool, Leeds and Manchester
Roman Catholic – Liverpool, Lancaster and Salford.

NATRE and RE Today

A number of SACRE members have strong links with NATRE and RE Today. This ensures that all members are continually updated with new national developments in the teaching and assessment of RE.

The Local Authority are currently working with NATRE to identify schools that would benefit from NATRE's Primary **1000** initiative.

Universities

During the last academic year Lancashire SACRE has forged positive links with local universities. Two representatives from the University of Cumbria are currently co-opted as members of the SACRE whilst regular contact is made with Edge Hill University through a lecturer who is also the Chair of NASACRE.

North, North West Hub

Lancashire SACRE continues to host the North, North West Hub network where representatives from a number of SACREs come together to raise issues of common concern and share good practice. Meetings are typically held in November, March and June and attended by representatives from Halton, Blackpool, Bolton, Bury, Cumbria, Lancashire, Rochdale, Warrington and Wigan. The network group is growing from strength to strength and benefits from the attendance of the current Chair of NASACRE.

Areas discussed included:

- Responses to national issues, reports and consultations
- Assessment in RE
- Reviewing terms of reference
- Reviewing the Locally Agreed Syllabus
- Right to withdrawal
- Determinations
- Opportunities to share expertise and good practice
- Monitoring of standards and provision
- Strategies to support one another in developing professional development in RE
- Relationships with academies
- Signposting to new resources

The Chair of the Lancashire SACRE has also attended the Cumbria SACRE Conference on 24 June 19.

National Reports/Surveys

The following national reports/surveys were considered by Lancashire SACRE over the year:

- The final report of the Commission for Religious Education – *Religions and Worldviews: The Way Forward, a national plan for RE (Sept 18)*
- The new statutory guidance on Relationships, Sex and Health Education.
- The new Education Inspection Framework.

Future targets for Improvement

Lancashire SACRE undertakes an annual self-evaluation exercise. Progress in implementing the development plan is evaluated and future priorities for improvement agreed. The Development Plan is rewritten biennially and use is made of the NASACRE RE Tool.

The following areas for improvement are currently prioritised within the 2018 -2010 plan:

Key Priority 1 – To raise standards by improving the quality of teaching, learning and assessment in Religious Education.

- 1.1 The paper syllabus is re designed so that it is more accessible and user friendly for teachers
- 1.2 A system of school to school support is established so that good practice can be shared.
- 1.3 A new assessment system is implemented which results in reliable judgements about pupil achievement
- 1.4 Schools have the tools available to self-evaluate their own practice and set internal targets for improvement.
- 1.5 Effective systems are introduced to evaluate the quality and response to ongoing training and consultancy.

Key Priority 2 – The SACRE works in effective partnership with the LA to monitor and evaluate standards for the quality of provision in R.E. in Lancashire schools.

- 2.1 Appropriate systems are established to monitor pupil achievement based on reliable assessment.
- 2.2 New methods to monitor the quality of provision in RE are trialled.

Key Priority 3 – To improve the provision of collective worship.

- 3.1 Good quality support and guidance is available to support schools in fulfilling their statutory duties with regards to the provision of Collective Worship.
- 3.2 The SACRE has a clear procedure established to ensure an efficient response to requests for disapplication.

Key Priority 4 – To ensure that the SACRE is effectively managed and works close cooperation with the LA and other key stakeholders.

- 4.1 SACRE meetings are purposeful and well represented.

- 4.2 Consideration is given to how SACRE can build a positive relationship with academies across Lancashire.
- 4.3 The SACRE works positively in partnership with key local and national stakeholders.
- 4.4 Children and Young people are provided with opportunities to participate in the development of RE
- 4.5 The SACRE builds positive relationships with local teacher training organisations.

Key Priority 5 – To develop the contribution of RE to community cohesion

- 5.1 Further develop links with people of different faiths, beliefs and traditions through training of Faith Leaders / volunteers
- 5.2 Develop a sustainable Primary/Secondary School linking Programme to promote community cohesion and tackle controversial issues.

SACRE Dates of Meetings and Record of Attendance for 2018/19

During the academic year 2018/2019, the Lancashire SACRE met on five occasions. The dates and frequency of the meetings are determined by the SACRE itself in relation to what has become a customary pattern. The dates of the meetings during the year and numbers attending according to records are detailed below. Members are encouraged to check that the records present a true record for accuracy purposes:

Name	08/10/18	26/11/18	11/02/19	29/04/19	01/07/19	Total
Officers						
Alison Lloyd	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Misbah Mahmood	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Representing the Roman Catholic Church						
Mrs Catherine Maddocks	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	0
Mr Ben McMullen	Absent	✓	✓	✓	Apologies	3
Janet Westray	-	-	-	✓	Absent	1
Representing the Methodist Church						
Rachael Slaley	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	0
Representing Islam						
Mufti Javid Pathan	Absent	Absent	Apologies	✓	Apologies	1
Mr Abdul Hamid Qureshi	✓	Absent	✓	Apologies	Absent	2
Mufti Khalid Ibrahim	Apologies	Absent	✓	Apologies	Absent	1
Mrs Tibret Safraz	✓	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies	✓	2
Representing Hinduism						
Mrs Harsha Shukla	✓	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies	1
Mr Ishwer Tailor	✓	Apologies	✓	Apologies	Absent	2
Representing Judaism						
Mr Ephraim Guttentag	Absent	Absent	Absent	-	-	0
Mr Robert Ash	-	-	-	Apologies	✓	1
Representing Buddhism						
Kelsang Pagpa	Apologies	✓	Absent	Apologies	Apologies	1
Representing the ASCL						
Mr Peter Martin (Chair)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Representing the NUT						
Ms Jo Crabtree	Apologies	✓	-	-	-	1
Representing the NAHT						
Karen Stephens	-	-	-	✓	Absent	1
Representing the ATL						
Julie Gordon	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Representing the NASUWT						
Ms Julie Roper	✓	✓	Apologies	✓	Apologies	3
Representing NATRE						
Ms Jackie Price	Absent	Apologies	Absent	Absent	Apologies	0
Representing the Church of England						
Mrs Nikki Chappelow	Apologies	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	0
Mrs J E O'Rourke	✓	✓	✓	✓	Apologies	4
Mrs Helen Sage	Apologies	✓	✓	Apologies	Apologies	2

Mr John Wilson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Ms Lisa Horobin	Absent	Apologies	✓	Apologies	Apologies	1
Representing Lancashire County Council						
Mr Francis Williams	Absent	Apologies	Absent	✓	✓	2
CC A Cheetham	✓	✓	✓	✓	Apologies	4
CC Y Motala (Vice-Chair)	✓	Apologies	✓	✓	Apologies	3
CC S Malik	✓	Apologies	✓	Apologies	-	2
CC P Steen	✓	Apologies	Apologies	✓	Absent	2
Teachers in the Secondary Sector						
Ms Joanne Harris	Apologies	Absent	Apologies	Absent	Absent	0
Representing the Higher Education University of Cumbria						
Sally Elton-Chalcraft	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies	Absent	Apologies	0
Carolyn Reade	Apologies	✓	✓	✓	Apologies	3
Representing the LASGB						
Mrs Kathleen Cooper	Apologies	✓	Sub sent	✓	Apologies	3
Building Bridges Burnley						
Mrs Sajda Majeed	-	-	✓	Apologies	✓	2
Representing the Bahá'i Faith						
Dr Malcolm Craig	✓	Apologies	✓	Apologies	✓	3

Appendix 2

Mission Statement of the Lancashire SACRE

To offer Lancashire Local Authority high quality, informed advice in relation to the provision of both Religious Education and Collective Worship in schools.

Values

In undertaking its statutory functions, the Lancashire SACRE will

- Value and promote religious and community harmony and the establishment of positive partnerships
- Recognise, respect and value the individual beliefs, perspectives and talents of its members
- Recognise itself as a valuable resource to support the development of both Religious Education and Collective Worship in Lancashire schools

Aims

The Lancashire SACRE has agreed the following statement of aims

1. To promote a positive image of Religious Education and the valuable contribution that it can make to young people's education and personal development.
2. To maintain and develop further the status of Religious Education in Lancashire schools, encouraging schools to see it as an effective, important and relevant part of the education that children receive.
3. To recognise and celebrate high quality provision of both Religious Education and Collective Worship in Lancashire schools and to disseminate good practice.

4. To promote processes of learning, discussion and reflective thinking which enable pupils to 'Learn from Religion' and to apply their learning, experience and thoughts to aid their understanding of the communities and world in which they live.
5. To promote learning which enables pupils to explore what religious belief involves and to develop positive values and beliefs by which to live their lives.
6. To encourage schools to develop an explicit and planned approach which enables both Religious Education and Collective Worship to make an effective contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social, cultural and physical development.
7. To promote high quality advice and training based on 'Best Value' principles to secure high standards of teaching and learning, high teacher expectations and the raising of pupils' achievement.
8. To ensure that SACRE members are well- informed and aware of current thinking in both Religious Education and Collective Worship.
9. To monitor and evaluate:
 - The advice, support and training provided to schools
 - Standards of both Religious Education and Collective Worship provision to schools
 - The implementation of the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus, and
 - The effectiveness of the Lancashire SACRE.